

## **WORKFORCE INNOVATION NOTICE: 19-03**

**TO:** WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS

**FROM:** Governor's Workforce Board

**SUBJECT:** Lower Living Standard – 2020 Guidance

**DATE:** Effective: July 1, 2020



- 1. PURPOSE:** To transmit the 2020 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) and Self-Sufficiency Guidelines. The LLSIL guidelines below are used to determine eligibility based on family income for youth and for “priority of service” adults. The Self-sufficiency Guidelines are used to determine eligibility based on a lack of a self-sufficient wage for employed individuals.
- 2. REFERENCES:** WIOA Title I; [Federal Register dated April 30, 2020](#); [Federal Register dated January 17, 2020](#); USDOL LLSIL Guidelines
- 3. BACKGROUND:** WIOA defines the term “low income individual” as one who qualifies under various criteria, including individuals in a family with total income below either the federal poverty level of 70% of the lower living standard income level (LLSIL). The 2020 Poverty Level Guidelines were published in the Federal Register on January 17, 2020. The 2020 guidelines for the LLSIL were published in the Federal Register on April 30, 2020.
- 4. INQUIRIES:** Questions concerning this issuance may be directed by phone or by email at:

Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training  
Governor's Workforce Board RI  
1511 Pontiac Avenue, Building 72-3  
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920  
(401) 462-8860 Phone (401) 462-8865 Fax  
[www.dlt.ri.gov](http://www.dlt.ri.gov) | [www.gwb.ri.gov](http://www.gwb.ri.gov)

## 5. DETERMINATION OF INCOME LEVEL.

In order to determine 70% of LLSIL, refer to the spreadsheet made available with the USDOL LLSIL Guidelines (<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/llsil>). Rhode Island is listed in the Northeast Metro Jurisdiction. Tab two indicates that for the Northeast Metro region 70% of LLSIL, based on family size, is as follows:

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6
Total Income	11,472	18,801	25,804	31,854	37,594	43,961

To determine 70% the LLSIL for family sizes greater than six, subtract the LLSIL of a family of five from a family of six. Use the difference of a family of five and six (\$6,367) as the income you will add to each income after a family of six.

In order to determine the Federal Poverty Level, refer to the 2020 HHS Poverty Guidelines made available with the USDOL LLSIL Guidelines. Rhode Island falls with the category of the 'Contiguous 48 States and the District of Columbia'. The 2020 Federal Poverty Level, based on family size, is as follows:

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total Income	12,760	17,240	21,720	26,200	30,680	35,160	39,640	44,120

To determine the Federal Poverty Level for families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$4,480 for each additional person.

Because the LLSIL amount for a family size of one - \$11,472 - is lower than the federal poverty level for a family of one - \$12,760 - the Federal Poverty Level will be used to establish low income status for a family of one. For all other family sizes, the LLSIL is to be utilized as it exceeds the poverty guidelines.

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference	Federal Poverty Level	Lower Living Income Standard Level	Lower Living Income Standard Level	Lower Living Income Standard Level	Lower Living Income Standard Level	Lower Living Income Standard Level
Total Income	\$12,760	18,801	25,804	31,854	37,594	43,961

**6. DETERMINATION OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY.** Self-sufficiency is defined as employment that pays 100% of the LLSIL. Refer to the spreadsheet made available with the USDOL LLSIL Guidelines (<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/llsil>).

<b>Family Size</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
Total Income	16,388	26,859	36,862	45,505	53,705	62,801

To determine 100% of the LLSIL for family sizes greater than six, subtract the LLSIL of a family of five from a family of six. Use the difference of a family of five and six (\$9,096) as the income you will add to each income after a family of six.

**7. EFFECTIVE DATE.** These guidelines are effective July 1, 2020.